



SPRUCE UP YOUR HOME
HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS

THE BLOOMINGTON HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (HRA) will accept applications through March 27, 2009, for its Home Improvement Deferred Loan Program.

Loans of up to \$35,000 are available to Bloomington homeowners. There are no monthly payments. Repayment occurs when the home is sold, transferred or conveyed. Interest is charged at an annual rate of 5 percent of the original loan principal for the first 10 years. No additional interest accrues after 10 years.

A lead risk assessment is required for all homes built before 1978.

Loans are offered to help maintain the condition of housing and neighborhoods. Applications are ranked and processed according to need.

Eligible repairs include replacing roofs, electrical, heating and plumbing systems, gutters, windows, doors, insulation, siding, soffits and fascia, exterior painting and foundation, sidewalk or step repairs.

Ineligible repairs include decorating, additions, finishing basements, remodeling and garage construction.

To apply for a Home Improvement Deferred Loan, you must be the owner-occupant of your home and have sufficient equity to cover the loan amount. *Income guidelines apply. See table below.*

INCOME GUIDELINES

Persons in household•	Maximum gross income••
1	\$43,050
2	\$49,200
3	\$55,350
4	\$61,500
5	\$66,400
6	\$71,350
7	\$76,250
8 or more	\$81,200

- Includes all residents of household, related and unrelated, including renters.
- Subject to change.



Loan applications will be accepted at the HRA office at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, until Friday, March 27, 2009. For more information or to receive an application, call 952-563-8937.

BLOOMINGTON MAKES ITS MOVIE DEBUT
COEN BROTHERS FILM AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN CITY

OSCAR-WINNING FILMMAKERS Joel and Ethan Coen, responsible for such noir classics as “Fargo” and “No Country for Old Men,” seem to be fond of Bloomington. They filmed at four locations in the city and have also enlisted many Bloomington residents, including Mayor Gene Winstead, to be extras in their latest creation, “A Serious Man.”

The film, set in a 1967 St. Louis Park neighborhood, is a tragicomedy about a professor whose life is falling apart.

Mayor Winstead, although he did not have a speaking role, was part of a scene shot at Normandale Community College. Normandale’s second-floor library overlooks a prairie.

Combined with the neighboring building’s low roof, this unique view has not changed in almost 40 years.

After visiting several golf courses, Dwan Golf Course was their first choice for shooting a golf scene.



said the Coen brothers chose 4th Avenue specifically for its great sightlines and well-maintained homes.

After an extensive search for a college that could be turned back to 1967, they chose Normandale Community College. Normandale’s second-floor library overlooks a prairie. Combined with the neighboring building’s low roof, this unique view has not changed in almost 40 years.

After visiting several golf courses, Dwan Golf Course was their first choice for shooting a golf scene.

“We were thrilled with Dwan, definitely one of the best kept city-owned courses that I have ever come across in my travels,” Bidner said.



Ethan and Joel Coen engrossed in a scene being filmed at 4th Avenue in Bloomington.

It was the old sign at Great Bear Center on Lyndale Avenue that attracted the Coen brothers to film there.

“We had just scouted a great Chinese restaurant and we were driving by the Great Bear when the Coens pointed out this really unique sign from the car window,” Bidner said. “We made a U-turn and took a closer look.”

Perhaps Executive Producer Robert Graf summed it up best when he told a packed auditorium at Normandale Community College that filming in the Twin Cities suburbs was an extremely gratifying experience.

The filming of “A Serious Man” concluded in October. It is scheduled for release in September 2009.

The Coen brothers were thrilled to find the Dwan Golf Course. It was a perfect setting for the film.

HOLIDAY
SALES
PRICES!

LOOKING FOR GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS?
PURCHASE YOUR SESQUICENTENNIAL MEMENTOS

BLOOMINGTON SESQUICENTENNIAL memorabilia, including t-shirts, caps, commemorative coins and more, is available for purchase.



Pick up commemorative items at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. To view merchandise, visit the our website at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Logo items. Proceeds support Bloomington Sesquicentennial activities.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OFFERED

Collectible spoons, lapel pins, sandstone coasters, ornaments and mouse pads, featuring the Sesquicentennial logo, are available for purchase from the City of Bloomington Employees’ Advisory Committee.

Purchase items in the Human Resources Department at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. To view merchandise, visit the City’s website at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Logo items.



NEW ADVANCES IN SNOWPLOWING
SNOW, ICE, NO MATCH FOR BLOOMINGTON STREET MAINTENANCE

STREET MAINTENANCE has been researching better methods of snow and ice control to improve safety in keeping with the City’s mission to provide quality service while moving toward a more sustainable community.

“The goal is to have the best snow removal program in the state,” Assistant Maintenance Superintendent Jim Eiler said. “To accomplish this, we’ve been researching different snow removal materials and chemical applications. Currently, we are experimenting with melting agents instead of the traditional salt and sand mix.”

According to Eiler, using melting agents exclusively will provide better traction and make snow and ice easier to remove.

Residents may also notice spots of brown salt this winter.

“We are treating salt with a brown coloring to help plow drivers see how much is applied,” Eiler said. “Treated salt can work in temperatures as low as five degrees. Salt alone only works when the temperature is above 15 degrees.”

The melting agents are environmentally safe and can result in a reduction in the amount of sand that must

be swept in the spring to prevent runoff from reaching our ponds and wetlands.

Street Maintenance has also started to “anti-ice” by applying liquid salt brine to roads just before a snowstorm which prevents snow and ice from bonding to the pavement.

New plow routes will also increase the efficiency and quality of snowplowing. The main arterial roads will now be plowed by two trucks in tandem.

For more information, visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Snow removal.